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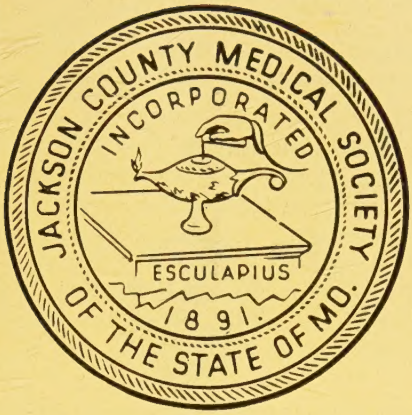
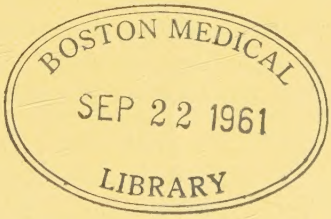
Weekly Bulletin



Jackson County Medical Society



V53#27

Dedicated to Greater Kansas City — a Medical Center

Kansas City, Missouri, January 3, 1959

Weekly Bulletin

Official publication of the
Jackson County Medical Society

Editor
G. WILSE ROBINSON, JR.

Editor of Contents
WILLIAM F. SANDERS

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Jackson County Medical Society
The Kansas City Area Hospital Association
The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans

Announce

The last program in the radio series
"OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS"
was presented October 20

Your Radio and TV Program Production and Planning Committee is considering replacement programs. Watch this space for further announcements.

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All communications should be sent to this address. Those marked for the attention of a particular officer or committee will be so referred.

The Society denies responsibility for all opinions and statements that are not official action of the Society. Views expressed represent the opinion of the writer.

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VOL. LIII NO. 27

KANSAS CITY, MO., JAN. 3, 1959

Contents

Answers 565
Bowling News 573
Coming National and Regional Meetings 568
Editorially Speaking 559
Executive Council Report 574
Fine Arts 561
Forty Years Ago 570
Happy Birthday 574
Health Care for Our Senior Citizens 560
Health Statistics 564
Kansas City Society of Pathologists Elects Officers 565
Library Notes 572
Little Known Medical History 560
Medical Minutes 562
Medical Week 566
Mercy Hospital Elects Officers 565
Public Relations Tip 564
Official Buyers' Guide 567
Opportunity 573
Program News 568

What Do You Remember About?

by IRVING A. WIEN

1. *Convincing evidence of coronary artery disease?*
2. *What to examine in malpractice insurance?*
3. *Complications of internal fixation of fractures?*

Answers on Page 565

Editorially Speaking

Well, what many of us feared is now happening and once the pattern has been established it will of course grow.

The National Foundation is asking business firms to appoint chairmen in each organization to take care of their March of Dimes campaign needs among the personnel who work there.

Perhaps this has been done before and my group was missed or perhaps we have been contacted before and I had not heard about it. Regardless of this, I flatly refused to obligate my already overworked office force to take on one more job having just gone through the same thing with the United Fund. Nor do I consider it fair to place my workers in another pressure situation where they might feel that they were under some obligation to contribute once more in a campaign that has been officially sanctioned by the Administrator.

And, since all of the national health organizations have now decided to follow the path mapped out by Mr. O'Connor, we can expect the rest to soon call us with the same request. The Cancer people, the Mental Health people and all of the rest will get the same answer—one campaign with pledge cards distributed by the office force, then collected and totaled is enough. The first thing we know, we will be asked to deduct pledges from payrolls a la the United Fund and with five or six separate and different deductions for five or six different funds the payroll computor in my small organization would be spending another full day out of each fortnight working on what is already a very complicated job what with government deductions of two or three types, Blue Cross and United Fund. We used to be able to turn out a payroll in three or four hours. Now it takes the better part of two full working days.

One local cancer committee recently refused to withdraw from United Funds in their community because they felt that another campaign would cause resentment and resistance. Whoever came up with that concept had a perfectly working, very efficient crystal ball because that is exactly what will happen. This local group was expelled from the national society.

In these matters we are no longer dealing in old fashioned, sweet charity. We are dealing with mammoth, multimillion dollar businesses supported entirely by contributions from the public. Their objectives are first class since they are each working to eliminate, if possible, some serious disabling and/or death dealing disease. The money is used for research and treatment for some of the sufferers of the disease particularly important to that society or foundation.

The big problem is the research money which is usually allocated by national headquarters from money sent it by local chapters. When national headquarters has full control of the local chapter who does not have to live within the budget set by the United Fund the amount of money to go for research is entirely an internal affair.

This research money is very important to the foundations and in a few situations has been very important to people as in the case of the Salk vaccine. The trouble is that there are now more than a dozen groups vieing for this money. Some of the newer ones are still in the strictly voluntary phase where important people sponsor an informal appeal of a "send your donations to." Such was the humble beginning of the March of Dimes. But such few millions are no longer satisfactory to Mr. O'Connor. And they will soon be no longer satisfactory to some dozen of the other Mr. O'Connors.

Continued on Page 560

When everybody gets in on the act how soon will all of these reach a point of diminishing returns resulting from resentment and unwillingness to be bothered with a campaign a month? Somehow or other these health agencies at both the local and national level must be brought into the one campaign.

I don't know how but the brass had better give it some thought.

G. Wilse Robinson, Jr.

Little Known Medical History

Charles C. Dennie

When Dr. Arthur Hertzler wrote his best seller, "The Horse and Buggy Doctor," he became known all over the United States by the laity. He was already famous as a surgeon among the profession.

One day he was called in to see a woman who had read his famous book. She demanded that her local physician have him in consultation. She had pain in her chest which he could not diagnose.

The local physician said, "Dr. Hertzler, I want to give you a little background of this lady. She is a Colonial dame, a daughter of the American Revolution. She comes from Boston, is highly educated and president of most of the societies in this city."

Family background was the most important thing in her life, even more important than the culture and education which she had obtained.

The local doctor said, "I just wanted to tell you the facts and you can act accordingly." This basic history was just like putting a box of oats before a hungry horse. Dr. Hertzler was taken to the patient's bedroom and introduced. He said, "Pull up your night gown, old gal, roll over and let's feel your slats. The old dame loved it.

Health Care for Our Senior Citizens

Prepayment of medical care for the elderly has long been a matter of urgent and continuing concern to the medical profession and its Blue Shield Plans. Within the past year, however, this problem has been made something of a political issue through the introduction of such legislation as the Forand Bill, which, if adopted, might radically affect the future of the entire voluntary health care movement in America.

In 1951, among a total Blue Shield enrollment of 21 million persons, nearly a million, or a little less than 5%, were over 65 years of age. Six years later, in 1957, among the total of **40 million** persons enrolled, 2½ million, or 6½%, were over age 65. Thus, in these 6 years, the number of Blue Shield members over 65 increased 170%, while total Blue Shield enrollment increased only about 85%.

Attention was called also to the fact that of the total number of people past 65 who have medical-surgical insurance coverage, about two-thirds are covered by Blue Shield.

Of all the people in the U.S., it is estimated currently that about 15 million are over 65 years old, and are not cared for by an established institution or agency. This represents approximately 8% of the total population. Thus Blue Shield's ratio of 6½% over age 65 is reasonably related even now to the ratio of the total population in that group—and rapidly approaching parity with it.

Blue Shield has always sought to serve medicine's inescapable responsibility to the **whole** community. It was until recently almost an exclusively Blue Shield feature that any member on retirement, or on leaving an insured group, could retain his coverage by "conversion" to a "direct-pay" basis.

Blue Shield is aware of medicine's responsibility to our senior citizens, and is prepared to follow the guidance and leadership of the profession in helping it meet this challenge.

Fine Arts

Music

Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra — VI 2-8761

Jan. 6—Music Hall—Special Program
In Honor of the 10th Anniversary of the Founding of ISRAEL—Weber—Jubilee Overture
Beethoven—Symphony No. 5
Partos—Ein Gev
Thompson—The Testament of Freedom
Tickets: $4.00 and $5.00

Jan. 14—Matinee Concert at Plaza Theater
Mendelssohn Anniversary Program
Conductor's Concert
Tickets: $3.00

Jan. 17—Connoisseur Concert at Temple B'Nai Jehudah
Klausner, Brown
Bach, Stravinsky and Berezowsky
Tickets: $2.50

Kansas City Town Hall — VI 2-0636

Jan. 10—Music Hall, 8:15 p.m.
Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo
Tickets: $1.50 to $4.00

Ruth Seufert Attractions — GR 1-2789

Jan. 16—Music Hall, 8:30 p.m.
Chicago Opera Ballet
Tickets: $1.75 to $4.25

Jan. 23-24—Music Hall, 8:30 p.m.
Mary Martin & Company in New Musical Revue
Tickets: $1.75 to $4.25

Theatre

Resident Theater — WA 1-7900

Children's Theater—"Greensleeve's Magic" by Marion Jonson, directed by Richard Fisher—afternoons Jan. 10-11-17-18—2:30 p.m.
Admission 50 cents

Jan. 24-25—8:30 p.m.
"The Chairs" by Eugene Inesco—8:30 p.m.
Directed by Rex Waggoner
Admission: $1.00

Victoria Theater — VI 2-6010

Jan. 5-6 and matinee Tuesday, Jan. 6—8:30 p.m.
Julie Harris in "The Warm Peninsula"
Tickets: $2.00—$4.50

Conservatory of Music — VI 2-6580

Stover Auditorium

Dec. 26-Jan. 4—8:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Mel & Phyllis Goldblatt's 1st Little Show starring Will Jordan

Art

Kansas City Art Institute — VA 1-2854

Jan. 11—6:30 p.m.—Fireside Supper
Exhibit at Gallery—drawings by Masters (old and contemporary) on loan from the Nelson Art Gallery

Jan. 22—2:00 p.m.—Sketch Box Tea

Nelson Art Gallery — LO 1-4000

Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the opening of the Gallery. A new Handbook of the Collections is available (270 pages, 8 color plates and numerous black and white illustrations; 8½x11", price: $3.00).

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The Starr Collection of European and American Miniatures

George Inness paintings (A. R. Jones Collection)

"Notable Acquisitions from Friends of Art Collection"

During January—Kansas City Collectors

Medical Minutes

Each Medical Minute Contribution is written for all doctors rather than for any group specialty.

GENERAL SURGERY—
J. A. GRIFFITH, JR.

Gastric cancer. The most important single factor affecting prognosis is lymph node metastasis. After resection, 44% of survivors with negative nodes and 15% of those with positive nodes lived 5 years or more. 1200 cases. Shows importance of early diagnosis. Pack. Surgery, 43:79 '58.

ALLERGY—
HERBERT J. RINKEL

Report of hypersensitivity to Hydroxzine Hydrochloride (Atarax) previously known to be allergic to Meprobamate which are not closely related chemically. This is original report of hypersensitivity to hydroxzine. Cohen, et al. J. of A., Nov. '58.

DERMATOLOGY—
FRANK X. DWYER

Four cases erythematous dermatitis due to sensitivity to visible light spectral range 4000 A to 7000 A. Reported due to fluorescent light. Lamb, et al. Arch. Derm., May '58.

NEUROPSYCHIATRY—
SIGMUND GUNDLE

40% of patients who committed suicide and 60% of attempted suicides were under medical care during preceding six months. Motto & Greene. Arch. of N. & P., Dec. '58.

ANESTHESIOLOGY—
JOHN E. KYGER

Fluothane is more hepatotoxic than ether but less than chloroform. Stephens. Anesth., Nov. '58.

OPHTHALMOLOGY—
CALVIN J. CURTS

At the present time corneal transplantation offers only definitive means of controlling or terminating recurrent or chronic herpetic keratitis. Fine. A.J.O. Nov. '58.

UROLOGY—
IRA T. SMITH

Every child with repeated urinary tract infections, residual urine, unexplained fever, vague abdominal complaints or flank pain should be studied for possible vesico ureteral reflux. Politano. No. Car. M. J., Aug. '58.

HEMATOLOGY—
ROBERT K. SKILLMAN

Certain preparations containing phospholipids may be useful as substitute material for platelet transfusions under certain circumstances when indicated for thromboycytopenic bleeding. Conley. Blood, Nov. '58.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY—
JOHN E. JOHNSON

Idiopathic hypercalcuria as cause of urinary lithiasis. Henneman, et al. N. Eng. J. Med., Oct. 23, '58.

DISEASES OF THE CHEST—
WILLIAM L. MUNDY

Asterixis — flapping tremor — in chronic pulmonary disease with an interesting discussion. Conn. New. Eng. J. of Med., Sept. 18, '58.

RADIOLOGY—
HAROLD F. DAUM

There is no deleterious effect of pregnancy on the course of Hodgkin's disease. Smith. A.M.A. Arch. of Int. Med., Nov. '58.

OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGY—
PAT A. BARELLI

Because industry knows about noise and hearing losses, hearing conservation programs to protect workers' hearing and to establish fair standards for determining hearing loss, responsibility and compensation are being initiated. Hearing Progress, Autumn '58.

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH—
HAROLD Y. ALLEN

Frequent roentgen similarity in cases of tin oxide inhalation versus silicon dioxide. Oyanyusen, et al. Ind. Med. Surgery, Sept. '58.

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY—
MARION W. RICHARDSON

When specific obstetrical difficulties are removed, passage of Megonium carries by far the gravest import for fetal survival. Helman, et al. Am. J. Ob. & Gyn., Nov. '58.

ORAL SURGERY & DENTISTRY—
DONALD W. MARTIN, D.D.S.

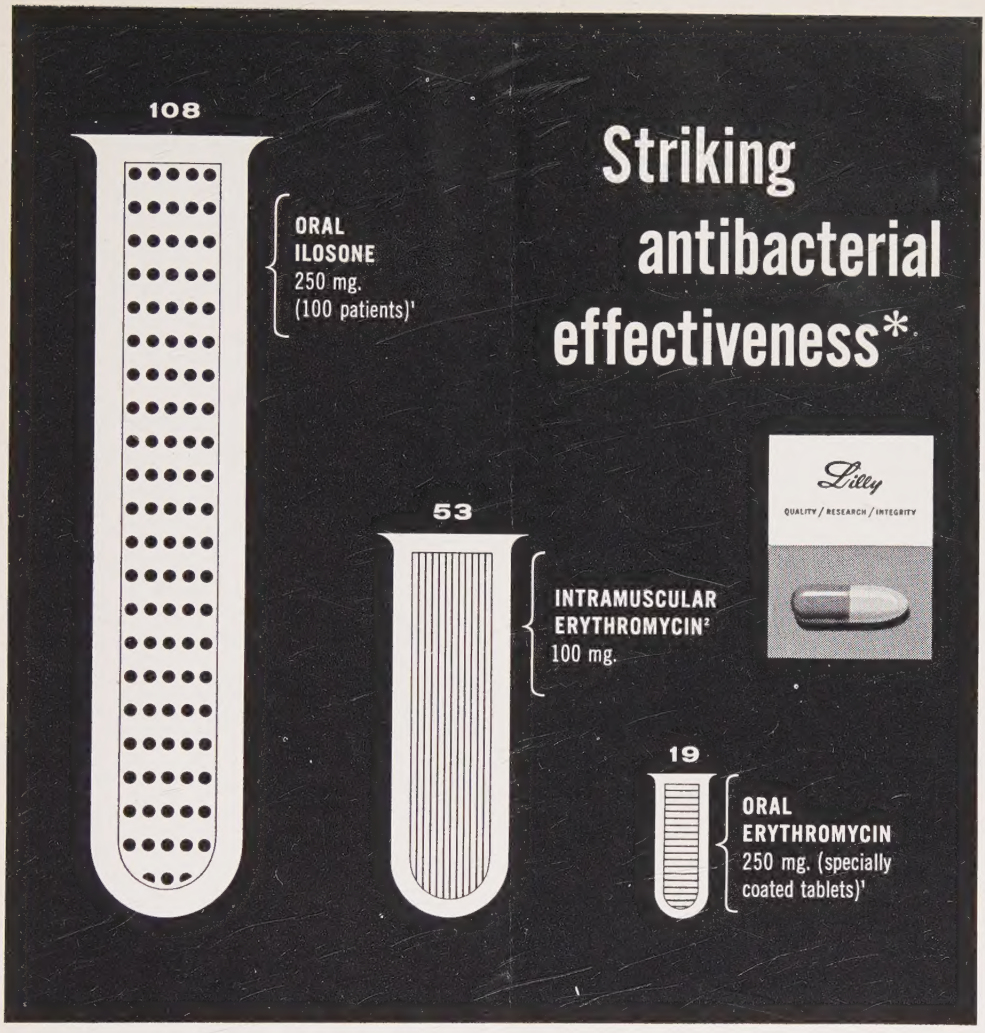
One key to outstanding success lies in recognition of well-known psychological principle that the urge to be important and to be so recognized is present in all of us. Card. J.A.D.A., July '57.

PROCTOLOGY—
CLIFFORD C. WILSON

The posterior triangular space of anus is frequently initial phase of fistula, anal fissure and cellulitis. Early diagnosis important. Anderson. Am. J. Surg., Oct. '58.

GASTROENTEROLOGY—
PAUL MOSS

Although cecal diverticulitis frequently could be managed by non-operative supportive therapy, differential diagnosis is often impossible without laporatomy. Schapira, Leightling. Am. J. Digest, 3:351 '58.



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1. Griffith, R. S., *et al.*: Antibiotic Med. & Clin. Therapy, *5*:609 (October), 1958. Note: Peak levels with the oral erythromycin tablets (thirty-three dilutions) were not observed until four hours after administration. 2. Data from Griffith, R. S.: Antibiotics Annual, p. 269, 1954-1955.

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Health Statistics

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATISTICAL REPORT

WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 20, 1958

Area, 111.7 square miles. White population 463,000, Colored 65,000. All data and calculations are based on this, the 51st week of the calendar year.

			First 51 Weeks	
	1958	1957	1958	1957
DEATHS—				
Total	119	147	6,068	5,509
Under One Year	11	6	466	402
Non-Resident	29	32	1,158	1,312
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	3	51	49
Within City Limits	3	1	39	30
BIRTHS—Total	581	179	16,148	17,137
MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY				
Chicken Pox				
Cases	9	20	372	239
Deaths	0	0	0	1
Scarlet Fever				
Cases	9	1	149	229
Deaths	0	0	0	1
Epidemic Meningitis				
Cases	0	0	9	11
Deaths	0	0	4	2
Poliomyelitis				
Cases	0	0	7	9
Deaths	0	0	1	0
Measles				
Cases	7	0	638	86
Mumps				
Cases	3	21	315	458
Whooping Cough				
Cases	13	0	144	21
Syphilis serology survey				
Cases	3	5	1,658	899
Deaths	1	0	7	7
Gonorrhea & contacts				
Cases	3	8	1,210	895
Tuberculosis				
Cases	9	2	265	244
Deaths	2	1	42	51
Rheumatic Fever				
Cases	0	0	12	16
Deaths	0	0	3	0
Infectious Hepatitis				
Cases	1	0	82	14
Deaths	0	0	4	5

Public Relations Tip

Meet the fee question honestly. Remember that patients resent fees which are tied to the saving of a life or the restoration of their health. To them this approach smacks on "blackmail." Patients also resent being billed on the basis of whatever "the traffic will bear." They want standard fees which are the same for everyone. They accept the doctor's need to make a living. They do not, however, accept the same increased costs for health.

Receives Honorary Degree

The F.I.C.D., honorary degree of the International College of Dentists, was awarded to **Claude W. O'Dell, D.D.S.**, at the American Dental Association meeting in Dallas, held November 10-17. This is the highest honor to be received in dentisty. Dr. O'Dell then attended the Pan American Dental Association meeting in Mexico City, November 18-24, which was attended by dentists from about ten countries.

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Answers

What Do You Remember About?

Continued from Page 558

1. It is roentgenographic findings of occlusion of a major coronary artery.

   Thal, A. P., et al: Journal American Medical Association, 168, Dec., 20, 1958.

2. The insuring clause, monetary limits, exclusions, practice limitations, cancellation clause, territorial limitations, settlement restrictions, and provision to cooperate with insurer at all times.

   Hassard, H.: Journal American Medical Association, 168, Dec., 20, 1958.

3. They are: surgical shock, death, failure of reduction, fever, hemorrhage, infection, embolism, thrombosis, malunion, deformity, distraction, excessive callus, and stiffness of joints.

   Callahan, J. J.: Surgical Clinics of North America, Chicago, Number, Feb., 1957.

Warren F. Wilhelm, president of the Kansas City Heart Association, spoke before a youth group meeting at the Community Christian Church December 14. His topic was "The Young in Heart."

Kansas City Society of Pathologists Elects Officers

Angelo Lapi has been reelected as President of the Kansas City Society of Pathologists for 1959. **James G. Bridgens** was reelected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer.

Mercy Hospital Elects Officers

New officers of the Medical Staff of the Children's Mercy Hospital for 1959 are: David Buddruss, President; **Bruce V. Drowns,** Vice-President, and **David Eubank,** Secretary.

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Medical Week In Greater Kansas City

Sunday JANUARY 4	NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
Monday 5	3:00 a. m. Clinical Pathological Conference — General Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Orthopedic Dept. Meeting — St. Joseph Hospital. 12:00 noon Pathology Dept. Meeting — Research Hospital. 12:00 noon Surgical Grand Rounds — Bethany Hospital. 4:00 p. m. Basic Science Course — Menorah Medical Center. 6:30 p. m. Surgical Dept. Meeting — Bethany Hospital. **7:30 p. m. Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society (See page 568).**
Tuesday 6	8:00 a. m. Ob-Gyn Dept. Meeting — Trinity Lutheran Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Surgical Grand Rounds — V. A. Hospital. 8:30 a. m. Medical Grand Rounds — General Hospital. 9:30 a. m. Psychiatric Case Conference — V. A. Hospital. 11:00 a. m. Tumor and Cancer Clinic — General Hospital. 12:00 noon X-Ray Conference — St. Margaret's Hospital. 12:00 noon Medical Grand Rounds — Bethany Hospital. 3:00 p. m. Hart Memorial Lecture — Mercy Hospital. 4:00 p. m. Medical Student Lecture — Mercy Hospital. **5:15 p. m. Executive Committee Meeting — General Hospital.**
Wednesday 7	8:00 a. m. Medical Sectional Meeting — St. Margaret's Hospital. 11:00 a. m. Psych. Conference — Mercy Hospital. 12:00 noon X-Ray Conference — Bethany Hospital. 12:30 p. m. X-Ray Conference — Mercy Hospital. 1:00 p. m. Anesthesia Conference — St. Margaret's Hospital. 2:00 p. m. Medical Conference — V. A. Hospital. 6:00 p. m. U.S.N.R. Medical Unit 9-4. 6:30 p. m. Executive Committee Meeting — Bethany Hospital. 7:00 p. m. Kansas City Anatomical Society — General Hospital, Anatomical Amphitheatre.
Thursday 8	7:30 a. m. Surgical Conference — Research Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Allergy Conference — Mercy Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Medicine Dept. Meeting — Research Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Medical and Surgical Chest Conference — General Hospital. 9:00 a. m. "Newer Concepts of Alcoholism" — Psychiatric Receiving Center. **9:00 a. m. Staff Meeting — Douglass Hospital.** 10:00 a. m. Psych. Med. Students — Mercy Hospital. 11:00 a. m. Hematology Conference — General Hospital. 11:00 a. m. Pediatric Conference — Mercy Hospital. 2:00 p. m. Greater Kansas City Medical Dental Bowling League. 4:00 p. m. Neurology Rounds — Mercy Hospital. 7:30 p. m. Regular Meeting — 325th General Hospital, U. S. Army Reserves, O.R.C. Armory, 1528 Central.
Friday 9	7:30 a. m. Medicine Conference — Research Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Endocrine Conference — General Hospital. 8:00 a. m. General Practice Dept. Meeting — Research Hospital. 8:00 a. m. Surgical Conference — Bethany Hospital. 9:00 a. m. Ob-Gyn Dept. Meeting — Research Hospital. 9:45 a. m. Medical Staff Therapy Conference — Kansas City Tuberculosis Hospital. 2:30 p. m. X-Ray Conference — General Hospital. 2:30 p. m. Joint Neurological-Neurosurgical Conference — V. A. Hospital. 3:00 p. m. Journal Club — Mercy Hospital. 5:00 p. m. Medical-Surgical Journal Club — Research Hospital. **6:30 p. m. Kansas City Society of Pathologists (See page 568).**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 568

Official Buyer's Guide

For Members and Auxiliary

Jackson County Medical Society

For Profit—Use Regularly

Buyer's Guide Information—Call Executive Office, JEfferson 1-8432

CLASSIFIED REFERENCE AND PURCHASING INDEX

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Medical Week in Greater Kansas City—Continued

Saturday 10

7:00 a. m. Journal Club Conference — St. Margaret's Hospital.
8:00 a. m. Tumor Clinic — St. Margaret's Hospital.
8:00 a. m. Grand Rounds — Research Hospital.
8:00 a. m. General Surgery Meeting — St. Margaret's Hospital.
8:00 a. m. Pediatric Conference — Mercy Hospital.
9:00 a. m. Surgery Dept. Meeting — Research Hospital.
9:00 a. m. Combined Staff Conference — Menorah Medical Center.
9:30 a. m. Surgical Grand Rounds — General Hospital.
10:00 a. m. Cardiography Lecture — General Hospital.
11:00 a. m. Surgical Conference — General Hospital.

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Coming National and Regional Meetings

January 4- 7—International College of Surgeons, Southeastern Regional Meeting—Miami Beach, Fla.
January 19-21—American College of Surgeons, Sectional Meeting—Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, S. C.
January 24-29—American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons—Palmer House, Chicago.
January 28-31—Rocky Mountain Traumatic Surgical Association—Aspen, Colo.
February 2- 4—American College of Surgeons, Sectional Meeting—Shamrock Hilton, Houston.
February 6- 7—American College of Radiology—Drake Hotel, Chicago.
February 9-11—American Academy of Allergy—Morrison Hotel, Chicago.
March 8- 9—American Broncho-Esophagological Association—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
March 8- 9—American Laryngological Association—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
March 9-12—American College of Surgeons Sectional Meeting—St. Louis.
March 10-12—American Laryngological Rhinological & Otological Society—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
March 13-14—American Otological Society—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
March 15-20—American College of Allergists—Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco.
March 26-27—Annual Midwest Cancer Conference.
March 30-April 1—Southwestern Surgical Congress—New Brown Palace Hotel, Denver.
April 1- 4—Neurosurgical Society of America—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
April 5- 9—American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists—Traymore Hotel, Atlantic City.
April 5- 8—Missouri State Medical Association—Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City.
April 6- 9—American Academy of General Practice—San Francisco.
April 6- 8—American Radium Society—The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.
April 13-18—American Academy of Neurology—Statler Hotel, Los Angeles.
April 13-15—Arkansas Medical Society—Goldman Hotel, Ft. Smith.
April 15-17—American Surgical Association—Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco.
April 19-22—Oklahoma State Medical Association—Mayo Hotel, Tulsa.

Program News

Executive Committee Meeting

K. C. Southwest Clinical Society

Monday, January 5, Executive Office, 3036 Gillham Road, 7:30 p.m.

Kansas City Society of Pathologists

Friday, January 9, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium, Wahl Hall, K.U. Medical Center.

Program: Slides will be presented by Drs. **Cohen** and Peters of Menorah Hospital.

Kansas City Bar Association

Thursday, January 8, Ad Club, Cocktails 6:30, Dinner, 7:00 p.m., $3.00.

Program: "Responsibility of Doctors in Going to Court and Responsibility of Lawyers in Dealing With The Doctor in Court." Hon. Miles W. Lord, Attorney General of Minnesota.

Members of the medical profession are invited.

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Forty Years Ago

Leo H. Pollock

Charles F. Sherwin, B.S., M.D., spoke on "The Hodgen Splint in the Treatment of Fractures of the Femur." During the civil war, Dr. John T. Hodgen was surgeon-in-chief of the St. Louis City Hospital, which institution was then caring for wounded soldiers. Finding great difficulty in dressing wounds on the back of a fractured thigh or leg without discomfort or danger to the patient, he designed his original cradle splint (1) consisting of four horizontal wooden rails attached to a foot piece, from which extension could be obtained by means of a weight and pulley at the foot of the bed. The upper two rails supported a series of canvas strips, so adjusted as to form a smooth cradle in which the entire limb was placed. One or two strips near the wound could be unpinned, and the dressings changed without disturbing the limb. He states later (2) that he got the idea of the canvas cradle abroad and then (3) that he combined it with the idea of Smith's anterior wire splint and Swineburne's (now better known as Buck's) extension. He later added a tent block to the long suspension cord and self-adjusting pulleys to the supporting cords next to the splint. In 1866, he designed the adjustable splint of square rods, and square hollow tubes much in use today. There have been no real improvements since.

The effectiveness of the suspension extension splint is due largely to the following facts: (1) The thigh and leg, both slightly flexed, are thereby placed in the position of greatest physiologic equilibrium between the flexor and extensor muscles, neither being wholly relaxed nor extended. (2) Constant extension of any desired amount necessary to overcome a likewise constant muscle pull which either shortens or angulates the bone, is readily obtained by making the suspension cord oblique to the extent of 5 to 30 degrees from the perpendicular. (3) The entire leg, thigh and hip move with the patient's body as one unit, the fragments remaining aligned and motion taking place in the hip joint normally as long as sufficient extension is kept applied. (4) Any desired amount of abduction may be kept constantly applied by swinging the support well beyond the side of the bed. (5) Dressings on any part of the limb can be changed without disturbing the fracture in any way, by merely dropping one or two strips at their outer end. (6) No anesthetic is necessary to apply the splint and no process of "setting" the fracture is required, as the traction overcomes both the strong spastic contraction of the muscles due to irritation or to injury which is normally of only a few days duration, and also the less strong but constant pull due to muscle tonus.

*1. Hodgen, J. T.; A New Appliance for the Treatment of Compounded Fractures of the os Femoria, Am. Med. Times, May 23, 1863.

2. Hodgen, J. T.; On Fractures, St. Louis Med. and Surg. Jour., 1871, p. 148-153.

3. Hodgen, J. T.; On the Treatment of Gunshot Fractures of the Femur and Tibia, St. Louis, Med. and Surg. Jour., 1864, 20, p. 17-21.

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Library Notes

Introduction to Anesthesia

The Principles of Safe Practice

By

Robert D. Dripps, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology, Schools of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; Anesthetist, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

James E. Eckenhoff, M.D., Professor of Anesthesiology, Schools of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. Anesthetist, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Leroy D. Vandam, M.D., Clinical Professor of Anesthesia, Harvard Medical School; Director of Anesthesia, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1957. 254 pages, illustrated, tables and figures, cloth binding.

Price—$4.75.

This small volume is primarily designed as a teaching manual for students and residents. It deals entirely with the problems of general anesthesia, block techniques being specifically excluded. The book is divided into five sections. The first four deal respectively with the preanesthetic period, the day of anesthesia, the actual operative procedure and the postoperative period. The fifth section is a catch-all devoted to special topics.

The book is essentially a distillate of the anesthetic experiences of the authors. Such a treatise is of great value, not only to beginners, but to advanced students of the specialty as well. This one is uncommonly well presented. Of particular merit are the discussions of anesthetic complications. The chronologic arrangement of the material, from the preanesthetic evaluation to the postoperative appraisal of the patient, is precise and orderly and makes for greater readability.

This is not a reference work. Its small size necessitates the rapid dismissal of relatively unimportant subjects. Documentation is very brief, with only occasional reference to specific sources.

As a reliable guide to the safe and proper management of general anesthesia this book is sincerely recommended.

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Executive Council Report

The Executive Council met in regular session Monday, December 22, with the following members present: **V. B. Ballard, J. D. Bennett, D. M. Eubank, H. L. Gainey, G. E. Hughes, J. H. Mayer, Jr., A. D. Mitchell, M. J. Mueller, A. B. Sinclair, Jr., A. B. Smith, G. A. Colom, and G. W. Robinson, Jr.,** Ex-Officio.

Members absent: **R. W. Forsythe, R. Perry, J. C. Williams, Jr.**

F. J. McCoy, Chairman of the Finance Committee was present.

The minutes of the meeting of November 23, 1958, were approved.

The following members were transferred as requested to honorary membership: **Charles H. Allen, Eugene C. Black, Arthur C. Clasen, Charles J. Eldridge, Harry M. Gilkey, Ford J. Lowrey, Ezra L. Petry, Lee J. Potter, Caldwell B. Summers** and **Joseph W. Welker.**

John Cashman and **Franklin C. Werner** were transferred to Corresponding membership by approval of their requests.

The Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

The Council approved recommending to the Director of Civil Defense, Mr. Curt Thatcher, that Drs. **Ralph E. Duncan, W. Wilmot Gist** and **Carroll P. Hungate** be appointed Deputy Directors for Civil Defense.

Upon ballot of the Executive Council, **Joseph B. Dolezal, Albert E. Fulton,** and **Abraham Gelperin** were elected to Active Membership. **Wallace P. McKee** was elected to Junior Membership and **Andrew B. Williamson** was elected to Corresponding Membership, effective as of January 1, 1959.

Dr. Sinclair, Chairman of the Cancer Committee, presented a recommendation to approve the American Cancer Society Cytology program for local units. This was re-referred to the Cancer Committee for a report at the next Council meeting.

Dr. McCoy, Chairman of the Finance Committee, recommended authorization to the Committee to invest some funds of the Society in short term securities. This was authorized on motion.

A report of the Planning Committee was presented and approved. The Committee reported that it is investigating employee pension programs, the medical profession representation in the Metropolitan Area Planning Council and the Community Studies report in "Public Health and Medical Care Needs of Jackson County and Kansas City, Missouri." Its recommendation to pay employees membership dues in Blue Cross and Blue Shield was approved.

Dr. Colom, Business Manager of the publication, reported that reduction in advertisement income had reduced the balance in the publication account and that additional funds were needed before the end of the year. The allocation of funds from the General Fund as a loan to the Publication Fund was authorized.

On motion by Dr. Mayer, bills payable were allowed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Happy Birthday

January	4	Daniel J. Cutcliff Ward H. Leonard Carl D. Siegel Ned W. Smull
January	5	Bruce R. Buie Andrew D. Mitchell Nathan Schechter
January	6	John H. Mayer, Jr. Michael J. Owens
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(1) Settel, E.: J. Am. Geriatrics Soc. *6*:39, 1958. (2) Jefferson, N. C., and Necheles, H.: J. Urol. *76*:651, 1956. (3) Necheles, H., and Kirshen, M. M.: The Physiologic Basis of Gastrointestinal Therapy, New York, Grune & Stratton, Inc., 1957, p. 87.

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